PATENT COOPERATION TREAT'S

From the INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

| To: BCF LLP 1100, Rene-Levesque Blvd. West 25th Floor MONTREAL, Quebec Canada, H3B 5C9 Due 06// m/m j/ Inscription Val | | | PCT NOTIFICATION CONCERNING INFORMAL COMMUNICATION WITH THE APPLICANT (PCT Rule 66.6) 1 a/y Pate of mailing 15 May 2006 (15-05-2006) | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference LR NREPLY DUE within one months/days from a the above date of mailing | | | | | | | | |
| | national application No. T/CA2005/0002 | | | International filing date (day/month/year) 18 February 2005 (18-02-2005) | | | | |
| | Applicant MAQUET CRITICAL CARE AB ET AL REQU / RECEIVED | | | | | | | |
| 1. | and [] the applicant [] the agent and this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith a copy of the note on that communication (Form PCT/IPEA/428). | | | | | | | |
| 3. | and the Regulations as explained in the attached note. | | | | | | | |
| 4. If no reply is submitted, the international preliminary examination report will reflect only the opinion expressed by this Authority. | | | | | | | | |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/CA Canadian Intellectual Property Office Place du Portage I, C114 - 1st Floor, Box PCT 50 Victoria Street Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0C9 Facsimile No.: 001(819)953-2476 | | | | Authorized officer Carl Ebsen (819) 997-2313 | | | | |

Form PCT/IPEA/429 (July 1992; reprint January 2004)

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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NOTE ON INFORMAL COMMUNICATION WITH THE APPLICANT

(PCT Rule 66.6)

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|---|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| International application No | | Applicant's or agent's file reference | | Date of informal communication (day/month/year) | | | | |
| PCT/CA2005/00 | 00217 | 08831-012 | | 25 April 2006 (25-04-2006) | | | | |
| Applicant MAQUET CRITICAL CARE AB ET AL | | | | | | | | |
| Communication | Communication Participants [] identity [] authorization [] personally checked checked known | | | | | | | |
| [] by telephone [] Applicant: | | | | | | | | |
| [] personal | [] personal [] Agent: | | | | | | | |
| [] Examiner(s): | | | | | | | | |
| Summary of communication: | | | | | | | | |
| In response to the agents le | In response to the agents letter dated Dec. 19, 2005, the agent refers to page 26 of D2 saying that "obviously, this threshold is not | | | | | | | |
| related to respiration musc | related to respiration muscle fatigue in any manner." On page 26 of D2, paragraph 1, it states "other muscles associated with | | | | | | | |
| inspiration above a desired threshold level" which can be related to respiration muscle fatigue. Document D2 deals with | | | | | | | | |
| controlling air pressure int | ng air pressure into the lungs which is directly related to respiration muscle fatigue (description, pg. 2, line 21). Page 2, line | | | | | | | |
| 26 describes the "neutral | cribes the "neutral deactivation of inspiratory muscles". On page 25, line 25 "the measurement of other respiratory- | | | | | | | |
| related EMG can be obtained with a suitable device placed in the vicinity of the respiratory-related muscle, inserted or impla | | | | | | | | |
| the surface of or into the muscle of interest". By controlling airway inspiratory flow and/or pressure the risk of respiratory muscle | | | | | | | | |
| fatigue is reduced. As seen | fatigue is reduced. As seen on page 31 of D2 "The myoelectrical activity of these muscles can eventually be detected by means of | | | | | | | |
| electrodes directly implante | electrodes directly implanted in the muscle." On page 3, paragraph 12 of D1 it states that "it should be kept in mind that the | | | | | | | |
| | concept of the present invention can be used with any respiratory muscle signal." | | | | | | | |
| By viewing documents D1 and D2 it can be seen that muscle fatigue can be reduced, and that said fatigue can be controlled by | | | | | | | | |
| threshold parameters. Reducing the risk of respiratory muscle fatigue is not considered to be an inventive step. | | | | | | | | |
| If the agent has any further questions please contact the examiner by telephone at the number below. | | | | | | | | |
| [] An extension of time limit is granted (Form PCT/IPEA/427). | | | | | | | | |
| [X] A copy of this note is being sent to the applicant with Form PCT/IPEA/429. | | | | | | | | |
| Applicant/Agent BCF LLP | | | Authorized officer of IPEA/CA | | | | | |
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| Canada, H3B 5C9 | | | · | | | | | |

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